

My name is Karen Banks. I am an RN and I live in Newtown, CT. I am strongly opposed to the HB 6645 on Assisted Suicide. I believe that all killing is wrong unless the following circumstances exist: self defense; declared warfare; the inability to protect human beings from grave or lethal harm.

I was pleased to have the death penalty repealed last year, yet find it very troublesome and contradictory that you are now proposing a bill to allow ill individuals to kill themselves! Something seems to be quite wrong with the thought process here. Criminals cannot be killed, yet the terminally ill may snuff out their own life.

You are also putting healthcare professionals in a very difficult and potentially dangerous situation. What if the healthcare professional does not believe in assisted suicide, yet the patient wants this done? Will the healthcare professional set him or herself up for litigation because they will not carry out the patient's request?

Please. If you are proposing any death sentence, let it be for this bill or any similar one in the future.

Thank you and I look forward to your vote to defeat bill 6645.